



香 港 商 船 資 訊

HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes (IMSBC) Code

To : *Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Ship Masters and Classification Societies*

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to promulgate the International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes (IMSBC) Code.

1. The IMO Maritime Safety Committee at its 85th session in December 2008 adopted, by resolutions MSC.268(85) and MSC. 269(85), the text of the IMSBC Code and the date of its implementation respectively. The IMSBC Code will enter into force on 1 January 2011 and will replace the Code of Safe Practice for Solid Bulk Cargoes, 2004 (BC Code) adopted by resolution MSC.193 (79) with the following major changes:

- The mandatory provisions governing the carriage of solid bulk cargoes and the carriage of dangerous goods in solid form in bulk in Parts A and B of chapter VI and Part A-1 of chapter VII of the SOLAS Convention are amplified in the IMSBC Code.
- Though the IMSBC Code is mandatory under the provision of the SOLAS Convention, some parts of the Code continue to be recommendatory or informative. In the Code, the words “shall”, “should” and “may” would mean that the relevant provisions are “mandatory”, “recommendatory” and “optional” respectively.
- The layout and content of the Code have been changed in order to keep abreast with the latest developments in transport.

2. The text of the IMSBC Code is contained in resolution MSC.268 (85), which can be found on the website of Marine Department (<http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html>) as an attachment to this Note.

3. Shipowners, ship managers, ship operators, ship masters and classification societies of Hong Kong registered ships are required to note the IMSBC Code and act accordingly.

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26 July 2010